



BUDGET WEEK

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus
U.S. House of Representatives
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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation
scheduled for the House floor

10 July 2006

Week of 10 July 2006

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) ***Eastern Municipal Water District Recycled Water System Pressurization and Expansion Project*** (H.R. 122). 

This bill authorizes the appropriation of \$12 million for the Federal share in the design, planning, and construction of facilities to recycle water in southern California. It also limits the Federal share of the project to 25 percent of the total cost. The measure does not affect direct spending – spending not subject to appropriations – or revenue.

2) ***To Authorize the Secretary of the Interior to Conduct Feasibility Studies to Address Certain Water Shortages Within the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems in Idaho*** (H.R. 2563). 

This bill authorizes the appropriation of \$3 million for the studies of water shortages within the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems in Idaho. The bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

3) ***Madera Water Supply and Groundwater Enhancement Project Act*** (H.R. 3897). 

This bill authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the study, design, and construction of an underground water storage facility in cooperation with the Madera Irrigation District in California. The Federal share of the cost of the feasibility study, and the potential costs for the facility, cannot exceed 25 percent. The bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

4) ***To Provide for the Conveyance of the Bureau of Land Management Parcels Known as the White Acre and Gambel Oak Properties and Related Real Property to Park City, Utah*** (H.R. 3462). 

This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the city of Park City, UT, two parcels of Federal land situated in the State. Under the bill, the city will pay a nominal amount to the Federal Government to acquire the parcels. The measure also directs the Secretary to sell, at public auction, two other parcels of Federal land in Utah, and allows the Secretary to use, without further appropriation, proceeds from those sales to offset the cost of the proposed land transactions, and to restore Federal land in Utah. This bill has no significant impact on the Federal budget. It could increase offsetting receipts – a credit against direct spending – but because those receipts would be spent, the net effect is negligible. The bill does not affect revenue.

5) ***Paint Bank and Wytheville National Fish Hatcheries Conveyance Act*** (H.R. 5061). 

This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey without consideration two fish

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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems. **Also note:** Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.

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hatcheries to the State of Virginia. The transfer comprises all property interests in the Paint Bank National Fish Hatchery and the Wytheville National Fish Hatchery, including about 625 acres of land, several buildings, a sewage treatment plant, and hatchery facilities. The bill has no effect on the Federal budget.

6) ***Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge Study Act*** (H.R. 5232). 

This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the Cherry Valley area of Pennsylvania to determine whether the area is suitable for a national wildlife refuge. The bill has no effect on direct spending or revenue.

7) ***Permitting the Use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a Ceremony to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Department of Veterans Affairs*** (H.Con.Res. 427). 

This resolution has no budget implication.

8) ***To Direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to Transfer to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement all Functions of the Customs Patrol Officers Unit Operating on the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation*** (H.R. 5589). 

This bill does not affect direct spending or revenue.

9) ***To Study and Promote the Use of Energy Efficient Computer Servers in the United States*** (H.R. 5646). 

This bill requires the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] to conduct a study of energy consumption at computer centers operated by the Federal Government and private entities no later than 90 days after enactment of the bill. The study is to include a review and analysis of cost-saving measures and recommendations for adopting energy-efficient computer centers. Enacting this legislation does not affect direct spending or receipts.

10) ***A Bill to Amend the Public Health Service Act With Respect to the National Foundation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*** (S. 655). 

This bill modifies the Public Health Service Act to increase the amount of the grants the Department of Health and Human Services [HHS] is authorized to provide to the National Foundation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] from \$500,000 per year to \$1.25 million per year. It also eliminates the 2-year restriction of voluntary service to be contributed from the Foundation to the CDC, and allows sharing of equipment and support services from the CDC to the Foundation. Enacting this bill would not affect direct spending or revenue, but would cost \$1 million in 2007 and \$7 million over the 2007-11 period, assuming appropriation and transfer of authorized amounts.

11) ***Celebrating Advancement Via Individual Determination's 25 Years of Success*** (H.Res. 576). 

This resolution has no budget implications.

12) ***Approving the Renewal of Import Restrictions Contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003*** (H.J.Res. 86). 

This bill renews for 1 year, through 28 July 2007, the ban of all imports from Burma. The ban was originally enacted as the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-61) and was set to expire on 28 July 2004. The ban subsequently was renewed for two additional 1-year periods, through 28 July 2006. The original legislation limited renewals of the ban to a total of 3 years. H.J. Res 86 increases that limit to 6 years, thereby allowing 3 additional 1-year bans. This resolution reduces revenue by less than \$500,000 in fiscal year 2006, and by about \$1 million in fiscal year 2007, with no effect thereafter. It does not affect direct spending.

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LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

- Bill:** *Credit Rating Agency Duopoly Relief Act of 2006* (H.R. 2990). 
- Committee:** Financial Services
- Summary:** This bill requires the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC] to establish a registration process for any credit rating agency (a group that determines credit worthiness of securities or money market instruments) that seeks to be designated by the SEC as a nationally recognized statistical rating organization [NRSRO]. Under current law, there is no formal registration process; SEC staff currently recognize five credit rating agencies as NRSROs. Under the bill, the SEC would impose disclosure and filing requirements on credit rating agencies seeking registration. The SEC would prohibit certain activities of registered credit rating agencies, including seeking payment for unsolicited ratings and issuing or modifying ratings on the condition of the customer purchasing other services from the credit rating agency.
- Cost:** The bill costs \$3 million over the 2007-11 period, subject to appropriations, but does not affect direct spending or revenue.
- Budget Act:** The bill does not violate any provisions of the Congressional Budget Act.
- Bill:** *Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006* (H.R. 4411). 
- Committee:** Financial Services
- Summary:** This bill prohibits businesses from accepting credit cards, checks, or other bank instruments from gamblers who illegally bet over the Internet. It also directs the Department of the Treasury and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to issue regulations outlining policies and procedures that could be used by financial institutions to identify and block gambling-related transactions that are transmitted through their payment systems. Compliance with those prohibitions and regulations will be enforced by various Federal agencies as well as State governments, and violations are subject to new civil remedies and criminal penalties. Finally, the bill requires the Secretary of the Treasury to report annually to the Congress on any international deliberations regarding Internet gambling.
- Cost:** Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, H.R. 4411 will cost about \$2 million over the 2007-11 period. It affects direct spending and revenue because of provisions affecting financial regulatory agencies and criminal penalties, but the net impact on direct spending and revenue is not significant in any year.
- Budget Act:** The bill does not violate any provisions of the Congressional Budget Act.
- Bill:** *Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006* (H.R. 9). 
- Committee:** Judiciary
- Summary:** H.R. 9 reauthorizes and amends the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It extends for 25 years certain expiring provisions of the act, expands the use of Federal observers at polling sites, and authorizes the use of the American Community Survey to identify areas that may need bilingual voting assistance. In addition, H.R. 9 requires the Government Accountability Office [GAO] to report to the Congress on the implementation of a provision

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of the Voting Rights Act regarding the requirement for election materials in both English and an alternative language.

Cost: The Congressional Budget Office estimates that implementing H.R. 9 would cost \$1 million in fiscal year 2007 and \$15 million over the 2007-11 period, subject to appropriations. Enacting the bill would have no impact on direct spending or revenue.

Budget Act: Enacting this bill would not violate the Congressional Budget Act.